

A NEW DODONAEA FROM MOLOKAI, HAWAII

Otto & Isa Degener

Local officials, not realizing that 99 percent of our native phanerogams are endemic or not impressed by this fact, are now subjecting our public lands to intense "conservation." One of their projects for such areas not suitable for the pursuits of agriculture or animal husbandry is to introduce Continental game animals such as antelope, deer and mouflon; another, to plant them to exotic timber trees such as pines and Samanea saman (Jacq.) Merr. Thus we are efficiently rushing a native flora, that took ten million years to evolve, to extinction; and slowly strangling our lucrative tourist trade. An example of this fast-vanishing flora, discovered while conducting field work under auspices of the National Science Foundation, is the following:

DODONAEA ERIOCARPA var. SHERFFII Deg. & Deg., var. nov.

Arbor 3 m. alta; foliis 40--60 mm. longis et 6--9 mm. latis; capsulis 4-alatis, 17 mm. longis, 12 mm. latis.

Three meter high entirely glabrous somewhat varnished tree with abundant leafy erect twigs. Leaves crowded, narrowly oblanceolate, commonly 40--60 mm. long and 6--9 mm. wide, acuminate to sessile or subsessile base, acuminate to minutely rounded apex, subentire. Capsule inflated, stramineous to crimson, 4-winged, 17 mm. long, 12 mm. wide including the 3 mm. wings.

Type locality: "Makai of Maunahui, Molokai. On open ridge in scrub." This variety is on the verge of extinction due not to introduced herbivores to which it seems unpalatable, but to the planted exotic pines whose fallen needles are helping kill all surrounding vegetation. Type specimen: Degener & Degener no. 24,952, July 30, 1958. This taxon is named for Dr. Earl E. Sherff whose splendid monographic work on the genus Dodonaea in the Hawaiian Islands facilitates the recognition of novelties.

GOULDIA IN HAWAII

Otto & Isa Degener

In preparing a paper for the Pacific Science Congress to be held in Honolulu this Fall, we had occasion to review literature on the rubiaceous genus Gouldia. We believe we are contributing a somewhat better understanding of the genus as it is found in the Hawaiian Islands by the following nomenclatural changes, mostly altering monographer F. R. Fosberg's various, to us seemingly too conservative, taxa to the next higher rank: